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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/847,382	05/03/2001	Jeffrey Richard Conrad	10006614-1	6078

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EXAMINER

BRUCKART, BENJAMIN R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2155

DATE MAILED: 10/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

9/3

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 09/847,382	<b>Applicant(s)</b> CONRAD ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Benjamin R Bruckart	<b>Art Unit</b> 2155	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 May 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

***Detailed Action***

Claims 1-20 are pending in this Office Action.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,848,243 by Kulkarni et al in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,295,527 by McCormack et al.**

Regarding claim 1,

The Kulkarni reference teaches a method of providing information related to one or more networks (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 1-7), the method comprising steps of:

receiving information (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 62-col. 3, line 5; filter by view; Figure 4A-4C; col. 3, lines 42-47; Figure 2);

retrieving network device information based on said information (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 42-60), said network device information being related to one or more network devices in said one or more networks (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 12-27); and

creating a visual representation of said network device information, said visual representation including one or more network segments (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 12-27; col. 3, lines 42-47).

The Kulkarni reference does not explicitly state selecting a filter but it is inherently performed (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 20-27; Figures 4a-4c and Figure 2... Alarms Sorted by).

The McCormack reference teaches at least one selected filter (McCormack: col. 4, lines 62- col. 5, line 9; Figure 4A).

The McCormack reference further teaches it is desirable to have a network information collection system that dynamically and in response to requests can determine current membership of devices (McCormack: col. 2, lines 59-62).

Therefore it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to one of ordinary skill in the art to create the thod of providing information related to one or more networks as taught by Kulkarni while employing selecting a filter as taught by McCormack in order to dynamically and in response to requests have a network information collection system that can determine current membership of devices (McCormack: col. 2, lines 59-62).

Claims 2-13 are rejected under the same rationale given above. In the rejections set fourth, the examiner will address the additional limitations and point to the relevant teachings of McCormack et al and Kulkarni.

Regarding claim 2, the method of claim 1, wherein said step of retrieving information further comprises retrieving network segment information for each of said one or more network devices (Kulkarni: col. 4, lines 15-34; child and parent), said network segment information being associated with said one or more segments in said visual representation (Kulkarni: col. 4, lines 63-67; subnetwork; col. 6, table 1 view-subnetwork).

Regarding claim 3, the method of claim 2, wherein said step of creating further comprises a step of creating said visual representation based on said retrieved network segment information (Kulkarni: col. 6, table 1; col. 4, lines 63-67).

Regarding claim 4, the method of claim 3, wherein said network segment information includes information related to said one or more segments, and said step of creating further comprises creating said visual representation whereby said visual representation is divided into said one or more segments (Kulkarni: col. 6, table 1; col. 4, lines 63-67; view just by subnetwork).

Art Unit: 2155

Regarding claim 5, the method of claim 4, wherein said step of creating further comprises a step of creating said visual representation whereby said visual representation is viewable on a single display page (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 54-64; Figures 6A-6C).

Regarding claim 6, the method of claim 4, wherein said step of creating further comprises a step of creating said visual representation whereby said visual representation includes an indicia indicating a division between each of said one or more segments (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 54-64; 2 different subnets; Figure 6A).

Regarding claim 7, the method of claim 4, wherein said step of creating further comprises a step of creating said visual representation whereby said visual representation illustrates connectivity of said one or more network devices (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 62- col. 3, line 5).

Regarding claim 8, the method of claim 4, wherein said step of creating further comprises a step of creating said visual representation whereby said visual representation illustrates connectivity of said one or more segments (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 62- col. 3, line 5; col. 6, lines 54-64; 2 different subnets; Figure 6A).

Regarding claim 9, the method of claim 1, wherein said step of retrieving network device information further comprises a step of retrieving said network device information from a database (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 33-54).

Regarding claim 10, the method of claim 1, wherein said step of receiving filter information further comprises a step of receiving said filter information whereby said filter information includes at least one node type (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 61-65; col. 6, table 1, lines 27-29; TopoType; McCormack: col. 5, lines 10-19; col. 8, lines 29-50; Filter type).

Art Unit: 2155

Regarding claim 11, the method of claim 10, wherein said step of receiving filter information further comprises a step of receiving said filter information whereby said filter information includes at least one node attribute (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 12-27; node attributes; col. 4, lines 6-40; McCormack: col. 8, lines 29-58).

Regarding claim 12, the method of claim 11, wherein said at least one node attribute includes node status (Kulkarni: col. 4, lines 6-40; McCormack: col. 1, lines 21-65), and said step of receiving filter information further comprises a step of receiving said filter information whereby said filter information includes at least one status level (Kulkarni: col. 4, lines 6-40; status as child or parent; the level is child or parent; McCormack: col. 1, lines 21-65).

Regarding claim 13, the method of claim 1, further comprising a step of displaying said visual representation (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 42-47; col. 2, lines 12-27).

Regarding claim 14, a network management node connected to one or more networks (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 6-10), said network management node comprising:

a plurality of modules stored on a computer readable medium (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 11-41); and

a database storing information related to a plurality of network devices in said one or more networks (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 33-60), wherein said plurality of modules are operable to receive information (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 62-col. 3, line 5; filter by view; Figure 4A-4C; col. 3, lines 42-47; Figure 2); retrieve network device information based on said information from said database (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 42-60); and create a visual representation of said network device information (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 12-27; col. 3, lines 42-47), said visual representation including one or more network segments (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 54-64; 2 different subnets; Figure 6A).

The Kulkarni reference does not explicitly state selecting a filter but it is inherently performed (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 20-27; Figures 4a-4c and Figure 2... Alarms Sorted by).

The McCormack reference teaches at least one selected filter (McCormack: col. 4, lines 62– col. 5, line 9; Figure 4A).

The McCormack reference further teaches it is desirable to have a network information collection system that dynamically and in response to requests can determine current membership of devices (McCormack: col. 2, lines 59-62).

Therefore it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to one of ordinary skill in the art to create the thod of providing information related to one or more networks as taught by Kulkarni while employing selecting a filter as taught by McCormack in order to dynamically and in response to requests have a network information collection system that can determine current membership of devices (McCormack: col. 2, lines 59-62).

Claims 15-16 are rejected under the same rationale given above. In the rejections set fourth, the examiner will address the additional limitations and point to the relevant teachings of McCormack et al and Kulkarni.

Regarding claim 15, the network management node of claim 14, further comprising a display operable to display said visual representation on a single display page (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 54-64; Figures 6A-6C).

Regarding claim 16, the network management node of claim 14, further comprising a network interface operable to transmit said visual representation over the Internet (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 12-27; Figure 1).

Regarding claim 17, a computer readable medium on which is embedded a program (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 39-41), the program performing a method for providing

Art Unit: 2155

information related to one or more networks (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 1-7), the method comprising steps of:

- receiving information (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 62-col. 3, line 5; filter by view; Figure 4A-4C; col. 3, lines 42-47; Figure 2);

- retrieving network device information based on said information (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 42-60), said network device information being related to one or more network devices in said one or more networks (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 12-27); and

- creating a visual representation of said network device information (Kulkarni: col. 2, lines 12-27; col. 3, lines 42-47), said visual representation including one or more network segments (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 54-64; 2 different subnets; Figure 6A).

The Kulkarni reference does not explicitly state selecting a filter but it is inherently performed (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 20-27; Figures 4a-4c and Figure 2... Alarms Sorted by).

The McCormack reference teaches at least one selected filter (McCormack: col. 4, lines 62- col. 5, line 9; Figure 4A).

The McCormack reference further teaches it is desirable to have a network information collection system that dynamically and in response to requests can determine current membership of devices (McCormack: col. 2, lines 59-62).

Therefore it would have been obvious at the time of the invention to one of ordinary skill in the art to create the thod of providing information related to one or more networks as taught by Kulkarni while employing selecting a filter as taught by McCormack in order to dynamically and in response to requests have a network information collection system that can determine current membership of devices (McCormack: col. 2, lines 59-62).

Claims 18-20 are rejected under the same rationale given above. In the rejections set fourth, the examiner will address the additional limitations and point to the relevant teachings of McCormack et al and Kulkarni.



Art Unit: 2155

Regarding claim 18, the computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein said filter information includes at least one node type (Kulkarni: col. 3, lines 61-65; col. 6, table 1, lines 27-29; TopoType; McCormack: col. 5, lines 10-19; col. 8, lines 29-50; Filter type).

Regarding claim 19, the computer readable medium of claim 18, wherein said filter information includes node status, and at least one status level (Kulkarni: col. 4, lines 6-40; status as child or parent; the level is child or parent; McCormack: col. 1, lines 21-65).

Regarding claim 20, the computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein said visual representation includes said one or more segments displayed on a single display page (Kulkarni: col. 6, lines 54-64; Figures 6A-6C).

### ***Prior Art***

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

U. S. Patent No. 5,958,012 issued to Battat et al is another network administration system for networks providing visualization.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Benjamin R Bruckart whose telephone number is (703) 305-0324 until 10/27/2004 and 571-272-3982 after. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:30 PM with every other Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on (703) 308-6662 until 10/27/2004 and 571-272-3978 after. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or

Art Unit: 2155

proceeding is assigned are (703) 872-9306 for regular communications and After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-0324 until 10/27/2004 and 571-272-3982 after.

Benjamin R Bruckart  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2155  
brb  
October 22, 2004

*blb*

*Hosain Alam*  
**HOSAIN ALAM**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**